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LETTER DATED 22 APRIL 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF KUWAIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I should like to inform you that, at precisely 1420 hours on Saturday, 12 April 1997, while a Kuwaiti Coast Guard patrol was in the process of escorting a civilian cruiser belonging to the Kuwaiti Ministry of Communications at the end of Khawr Abdullah near the Kuwaiti island of Warbah, an Iraqi patrol was sighted to the right of buoy 21, as was another Iraqi launch on the coast of the Kuwaiti island of Bubiyan, whereupon the Iraqi launch fired a medium weapon at the Kuwaiti Coast Guard patrol and the Kuwaiti civilian cruiser. As well as violating the sanctity of Kuwaiti boundaries and territorial waters, such provocative acts by the Iraqi regime threaten the region's security and highlight Iraq's lack of peaceful intentions towards its neighbours.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad A. ABULHASAN
Permanent Representative

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